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THE HUMBLE

PROPOSALS

And DESIRES of

His Excellency the Lord *Fairfax*,

And of the

General Councel

OF OFFICERS,

In order to a speedy prosecution

OF

JUSTICE,

AND

The Settlement formerly propounded by them.

BY the Appointment of His Excellency the Lord Fairfax, Lord General, and His General Councel of Officers, Decemb. 6. 1648.

Signed,

JOHN RUSHWORTH Secr.

London, Printed by JOHN FIELD for *John Partridge* Decemb. 7. 1648.

To the Honorable,
The Commons of England *assembled in Parliament*:

THE HUMBLE PROPOSALS

And Desires of His Excellency the Lord *Fairfax*, and of the general Councel of Officers, in order to a speedy prosecution of Justice, and the Settlement formerly propounded by them.

HAving, with others, for a long while sadly beheld and tasted, in your proceedings, the miserable fruits of Councels divided and corrupted by Faction and personal Intereſt, even to the neglect, betraying and casting away all thats publique and good, to the lengthning out of endless troubles, burthen and damage to the Kingdom, to the continuance and widening of that issue of blood, whereby these Nations have been so much polluted and consumed, and to the perpetual hazard of Bondage and Destruction to them at last: And both we and many others having propounded foundations of Justice and Settlement, which are of evident Advantage and Security to the publique Intereſt, and clear from any thing thats personal or particular; But finding that through th'aforesaid Corruption and Divisions in your Councels, the same can obtain

no

no place or consideration at all: And foreseeing evidently that the condition of the Kingdom will not bear delay of Settlement one way or other, We conceive our selves and others that are sensible hereof, to be necessitated unto some extraordinary vigorous and speedy way, whereby those roots of Faction, Division, and private Interests may be weeded out from amongst you, and so your Councels cleared and united, to the timely and effectual prosecution of Justice, with a sound Settlement and publique good to the Kingdom, and to the speedy introducing of such a succeeding Authority, wherein future Differences may be prevented, and a general Acquiescence obtained.

Therefore seeing no better or other way, We propound and demand as followeth:

1. Whereas *Denzil Hollis* Esq; *Lionel Copley* Esq; Major Gen: *Massey*, and others of your Members, (whose Names you well know) were in the year 1647. impeached by your selves for Treason, or for high Crimes and Misdemeanors, in relation to the Treasonable Engagement in the City of *London*, The violence then done upon the Parliament, and The levying of a new War, and other evils in maintenance and prosecution thereof; and upon clear proofs against them, were by your censure expelled the House, and disabled from fur-

ther truſt therein, and upon new Writs iſſued out new Members were choſen and return'd in ſome of their rooms, and yet by the prevalence of their Faction (*When in the laſt Summers War divers faithful Members were ingaged abroad upon neceſſary publique ſervice, and others through Malignant Tumults and Diſturbances could not ſafely attend the Houſe*) the ſame perſons were afterwards re-admitted to ſit in the Houſe, and Vote as formerly, without any tryal or ſatisfaction in the things whereof they were accuſed: We demand, That all thoſe Members ſo Impeached, may be forthwith ſecured, to be brought to Juſtice or Trial for their ſaid Crimes; and that ſuch others of their Faction, by whoſe Votes, Councels and Confederacy they were ſo re-admitted, may be ſecluded from the Houſe, and not ſit as Judges for thoſe their confederates.

2. Whereas by the Confederacy of Maj. G: *Brown* now Sheriff of *London*, with the ſaid Impeached Members & others, the Scots were invited and drawn in to invade this Kingdom the laſt Summer, inſomuch as when upon the actual Invaſion the Houſe proceeded to declare them Enemies, and thoſe that adhered to them Traytors; yet the ſaid Confederates and other treacherous Members (to the number of Ninety and odde, as upon the diviſion of the Houſe appeared) did by their Coun-

Councels and Votes endeavor to hinder the Houſe from declaring againſt their confederate Invaders, We deſire, That the ſaid Maj. Gen: *Brown* may be alſo ſecured and brought to judgement, for that and other his treacherous Confederacies or Correſpondencies with the publique and declared Enemies of the Kingdom (which we hereby charge him with, and ſhall be ready to make proof of) And that the reſt of the Ninety and odde perſons diſſenting in the ſaid Vote, may be excluded the Houſe, and not truſted further in your Councels.

3. Whereas in a continued Series of your proceedings for many moneths together, we have ſeen the prevalence of the ſame treatherous, corrupt and divided Councels, through Factions and private Intereſts, oppoſing or obſtructing Juſtice in all kindes, diverting your Councels from any thing of publique good, hindring any proceedings to any ſuch Settlement, as would conſiſt with Security to the publique Intereſt, or put a real end to the Troubles, Burthens or Hazards of the Kingdom, and precipitating into treacherous and deſtructive Compliances and Conjunctions with the acknowledged Enemies thereof; and this we have have ſeen particularly in the corrupt Councels and Reſolves of receding from, and re-

calling the Votes of *No more Addresses to the King*, &c. (the justness and necessity whereof you had once so cleared to the world) also in the Votes for entertaining or seeking (after all that) a Personal Treaty with the King your Prisoner, upon such Propositions as himself should tender, as well as your own, offering upon imperfect (and those but wrested) Concessions from him, to Restore him, with impunity, to Honor, Freedom, Safety, and his Revenue, exempting all (even the principal) Authors and Actors in the last Summers War from capital Punishment or Tryal, and bringing off the rest with Fines or Censures most inconsiderable to the publique Damage and Mischief they have done; whereby both they and others are encouraged to renew and multiply the Kingdoms Troubles: And lastly, in the Votes declaring the Kings past Concessions to be a Ground for the House to proceed upon, for the Settlement of the PEACE of the Kingdom, notwithstanding the visible insufficiency and defects of them in things essentially concerning the publique Interest, and Liberties of the Kingdom (as those propounded in our late Remonstrance are) and in other matters both Religious and civil (from which, by express Covenant or publique Faith given, you were obliged not to

recede. In which Votes & councels it is apparent, those that are guilty of the have deserted, betrayed & justly forfeited their Trust for the publique; insomuch that we dare appeal to all well affected or reasonable men, Whether there be any hopes by, or with the conjunction of such men in your Councels, to have any sound or timely Settlement, to have any end of Troubles, Burthens or Hazards, or any publique good done for the Kingdom: We therefore most earnestly desire, That all such faithful Members who are innocent in these things, would immediately (by Protestation and publique Declaration) acquit themselves from any guilt of, or concurrence in the several Votes or Councels here before particularly mentioned, as corrupt or destructive, that the Kingdom may know who they are that have kept their Trust, and distinguish them from the rest that have thus falsified the same; and that all such as cannot or shall not so acquit themselves particularly, may be immediately excluded or suspended the House, and not readmitted, until they shall have given clear satisfaction therein to the Judgement of those who now so acquit themselves, and the grounds of such satisfaction be published to the Kingdom.

4. Thus, such as by faithfulness have retained their

their Trust, being set in a condition to pursue and perform the same, without such Interruptions, Diversions and Deprivations of Councels, as formerly, We shall desire and hope you will speedily and vigorously proceed, To take order for the execution of Justice, To set a short period to your own Power, To provide for a speedy Succession of equal Representatives, according to our late Remonstrance, wherein Differences in the Kingdom may be ended, and we and others may comfortably acquiesce; as (for our parts) we hereby engage and assure you we shall.

By the Appointment of His Excellency the Lord Fairfax, Lord General, and His General Councel of Officers, December 6. 1648.

Signed,

JOHN RUSHWORTH Secr'

FINIS.